

THE COLUMNS

Dear PC family,

As we celebrate the holidays each year, we are reminded to count our many blessings and to give thanks for each of them. It is also customary to take inventory of the year we're leaving behind and set our sights on a brand new year.

This year has been challenging – for the nation, for our community, for higher education, and, yes, for Presbyterian College. When I met this fall with presidents from other independent colleges and universities in South Carolina, there was a shared recognition of the numerous and rapid changes we all face – but also a shared purpose in facing them head-on.

Throughout our history – in times of war, societal unrest, even the Great Depression – Presbyterian College has remained steadfast in its mission to provide a first-class liberal arts education for future educators, doctors, lawyers, business leaders, and ministers. We'll do now what we've always done; we will think hard, work hard, pray, and plan for a future that includes a strong, vigorous, outstanding Presbyterian College.

This fall, as many of you know, we endured two very challenging incidents that put to the test our sense of well-being and the bonds of community. One of our students was missing for nearly two months before he was discovered safe and, in early October, two exchange students were killed in a tragic automobile accident. As a college president, it is never easy – nor should it be – to deliver sad news to a family of one of our students. However, from my vantage point as president, I have been witness to the remarkable human spirit – the PC spirit.

Within hours of learning that two members of our family had perished, our students were searching for ways to help one another – to gather in remembrance, to embrace one another in prayer, and to let the families in Germany know how much their daughters were loved. The response from campus reminded me once again of the special qualities of PC.

Ask me this year what I'm thankful for? When it comes to Presbyterian College, I'm most thankful for the young men and women who have been entrusted to our care. They are our truest blessing!

And I'm thankful for you – the men and women who committed their college years to Presbyterian College and who continue to commit their gifts to its future. May you continue to embrace us in your prayers and with your generosity that we may continue to provide the finest liberal arts education in this magnificent place.

Nancy and I hope each of you will enjoy the wonder of the Christmas season and a bountiful new year.

Go Blue Hose!

Dr. John and Nancy Griffith



Grand Opening of new School of Pharmacy highlights Clinton’s history of care for the community

Nearly 400 members of the community gathered at the Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy on Friday, Nov. 5, to celebrate the grand opening of the first doctoral program in a medical-related field in the upstate of South Carolina.

PC president Dr. John Griffith and dean of the pharmacy school Dr. Dick Stull spoke about the significance of the event to an audience of enthusiastic pharmacy school faculty, students, and supporters. Griffith likened the School of Pharmacy to a crystal glass.

“We have a glass,” Griffith said, “a fine and beautiful piece of crystal etched over 130 years with the talents and commitments of faculty, coaches, staff, alumni, trustees, administrators, the Presbyterian Church, and a host of friends. Today that glass is filled with a strong faculty, committed coaches and staff, a promising and eager student body. All are involved in one of the most interesting and challenging programs available in America.”

Griffith also recounted the history of the founding of the school, beginning when William Plumer Jacobs, a Presbyterian minister, arrived in Clinton to begin his ministry in 1864.

“Jacobs put his heart into this town and spent his life here working to make a difference,” Griffith said. “His commitment grew out of his Christian faith as the foundation for serving others and for educating a people in search of leaders to establish a new society in the wake of Civil War devastation.”

Griffith elaborated on how Jacobs, with the help of the Presbyterian Church, founded the Clinton High School Association in 1872 and then Clinton College in 1880. Six years later, the College opened the first academic building on Thornwell’s campus.

“From these humble beginnings, we evolved into a college known for excellence in the liberal arts with a global perspective, a rich array of opportunities for student leadership, and a record of success in sending forth men and women to lead in all vocations,” Griffith said. “This college that had its roots on this location, returns here tonight to pay homage to our heritage.”

And the location of the School of Pharmacy has ties to providing health care to the community many years before the school opened. In the midst of a polio scare in 1948, Dr. George Blalock converted the house of former PC trustee Joseph A. Bailey and wife Nina Vance into a clinic. Complete with waiting rooms, offices, an operating room, and patient rooms, the clinic operated as the center for medical care until Bailey Memorial Hospital opened in 1962.

In 1949, local investors built a modern hotel on land adjacent to the Blalock Clinic. The investors, with familiar Clinton family names such as Plaxico, Hamer, Wysor, Anderson, Addison, Young, Eichelbeger, Baldwin, Harris and Bailey, built the Mary Musgrove Hotel.

The Mary Musgrove closed in 1975, and the Presbyterian Homes of South Carolina purchased it for \$74,600 and renovated it for up to 46 residents.

“It was dedicated on Jan. 26, 1976 and named in honor of a PC graduate, a distinguished minister of

Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church, and a pioneer in campaigning for homes for the elderly, William McLeod Frampton,” Griffith said.

“And so, here we are, back where we began to celebrate the opening of the Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy.”

After Griffith spoke about the history of the School of Pharmacy, Stull talked to an engaged audience about what makes the school so important.

“The academic and health giving activities that will be generated from our 78 students and others who work in this building will touch the lives of South Carolinians and others of the southeast,” Stull said. “Because of a focus on rural health care, we will never forget that care and opportunity should be brought to the smallest, poorest towns in our region. For there, too, there are people of energy, intelligence, and drive for improved health care.”

Stull also discussed the School of Pharmacy curriculum that integrates small group discussions, laboratory instruction, and patient care clerkship experiences.

“The curriculum is centered on our students, who themselves assume primary responsibility for their own educational outcomes,” he said. “Faculty and staff serve as mentors and facilitators in a shared partnership with the students. The pharmacy curriculum requires the student to be prepared in the physical and life sciences, but well-rounded in the humanities, assuring that the Presbyterian graduate has a noticeable and positive impact on the communities in which they work, study, and live.”

Griffith and Stull agreed that the School of Pharmacy has gotten off to a good start, thanks in large part to many individuals and businesses who have provided financial support.

“There is no question but what such a grand undertaking required the financial assistance of many,” Griffith said.

Supporters have raised more than \$7 million of the \$10.5 million goal. Griffith and Stull agree that the money raised will benefit people affected by the School of Pharmacy.

“We have done this for the students and the faculty who teach them,” Stull said, “and what they will go on to do for thousands of people in Laurens County and in communities across this state and nation.”



Athletics Department unveils new spirit mark

Presbyterian College has unveiled a new spirit mark to represent its 16 athletic teams. The new mark is intended to provide Blue Hose fans and athletic opponents and those unfamiliar with the college a visual representation of PC’s unique mascot.

“The athletic department is excited about the new secondary logo,” said Brian Reese, PC’s director of athletics. “We feel that the new logo does a great job in describing who we are. Athletics will be using this logo on a variety of apparel and printed material.”

The nickname “Blue Hose” began innocently enough when, in the early 1900’s, sportswriters referred to PC’s athletic teams as the “Blue Stockings” because of their blue socks. Writers used the terms “stockings” and “hose” interchangeably through the 1940’s.

Later, former PC public relations and alumni director Ben Hay Hammet’s 1982 centennial history of PC noted that blue-stockings Presbyterians also alluded to “Presbyterians with strong puritan leanings.”

The term “Blue Hose,” therefore, carried two connotations for PC: as the color socks worn by the athletic teams and as a description of a member of the Presbyterian denomination.

“At any rate,” Hammet wrote, “the sports nickname was shortened to ‘Blue Hose’ in 1954- presumably under the assumption that it sounded somewhat fiercer to carry onto the field of athletic battle.”

The nickname has survived all these years, today signifying fierce Scottish warriors. This interpretation also reflects the college’s Scottish heritage.

The block PC has historically appeared as the primary logo of the Presbyterian College athletic teams and will remain so. The new spirit mark, serving in a secondary role to the block PC, will appear on merchandising and will provide fans another way to show their Blue Hose pride.





(left to right) Cally Gault, Steve Churm, Dr. Caughman Taylor, Elizabeth George Parker, and Matt Miller

PC Alumni Association honors outstanding quintet during Homecoming ceremony

The Presbyterian College Alumni Association honored five outstanding former students at its annual Homecoming meeting on Oct. 16.

Dr. R. Caughman Taylor, chair of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine’s Department of Pediatrics and senior medical director at Palmetto Health Children’s Hospital in Columbia, S.C., received the Alumni Gold P Award for outstanding accomplishments in his profession which have reflected honor upon PC.

A magna cum laude graduate of PC and the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, Taylor practiced pediatric medicine in Rock Hill, S.C., and Columbia before joining the USC School of Medicine faculty in 1991.

Taylor quickly established himself as a dedicated medical educator, earning the Frank Bowyer Faculty Teaching Award in 1997, the Teaching Advancement Award in 2000, the Humanism in Medicine Award in 2003, the Distinguished Physician Alumni Award in 2004, and the Child Advocacy Award in 2008. In 2004, Taylor was inducted in the Palmetto Health Children’s Hospital Pediatric Hall of Fame.

“Anything I’m being credited with accomplishing today is due to the many wonderful people I’ve worked with and know and the many opportunities I received here at PC,” he said. “The first and most important thing PC taught me is to value relationships with other people. The friends I made here are still the best friends I have today and they’re closer than my brothers. Additionally, PC taught me preparation and hard work. I never studied harder in med school than I did here. I was prepared and I did well and did even better in med

school than I did here.”

Taylor credited retired English professor Dr. Jim Skinner with teaching him to embrace “change that was necessary for growth and improvement.” He also thanked psychology professor Dr. Ann Stidham for teaching him “to accept challenges and to overcome those challenges.”

“She taught me to be open to differences of opinion,” Taylor said. “She taught me to challenge the things I believed.”

Former head football coach and athletic director Cally Gault of Clinton, S.C., was presented with the 2010 Thomas Aurelius Stallworth ’55 Award for embodying the best characteristics of its namesake – “Christian leadership, strong bold character, integrity, moral courage, and values.”

Gault coached the Blue Hose football team for 22 years and was named S.C. Coach of the Year five times. His teams won two conference championships and advanced to the NAIA playoffs in 1979. He also made lasting administrative contributions to his alma mater as PC’s athletics director and was a longtime friend of Stallworth, singing with him in the choir at First Presbyterian Church in Clinton.

“Tom Stallworth wasn’t just a friend,” said Gault, “he was a pal – a buddy. But it took five years before I realized that ‘Aurelius’ was his real middle name and he wasn’t just pulling my leg.

“They talk about him being a Renaissance man. I’m not sure what a Renaissance man is but in baseball I know what a utility man is. It’s one who can play every position. Tom played every position they gave him at Presbyterian College and he did them well, as he did

every position in town and in the church. I know if the streets of heaven need to be paved, Tom will be there with a wheelbarrow full of gold.”

Steve Churm ’78 of North Augusta, S.C., was presented with the Mary F. Lehman Alumni Service Award in recognition of outstanding meritorious service rendered to PC and the Alumni Association.

Churm, the principal operations engineer for LinQuest Corporation in Augusta, Ga., has served twice on the PC Alumni Board of Directors and has served as a member of both the Board of Visitors and the Board of Church Advisors. As a co-chair with his wife, Alison ’81, of the Parents’ Council, he has led Parents Day programs and led panels for parents of incoming freshmen. Churm is a vocal advocate for PC in the North August area; his family has hosted alumni socials and has recruited prospective students.

“My love affair with Presbyterian College started 36 years ago,” he said. “Service is something I don’t feel is a chore. I love this college and hope there will be many more opportunities for me to serve.”

The 2010 Dum Vivimus Servimus Award for alumni who exemplify the college’s motto, “While We Live, We Serve,” was presented to Elizabeth George Parker ’87 of Elgin, S.C. A passionate volunteer in the Palmetto Health Children’s Hospital, Parker assumed a leadership role in the organization’s main fundraising event, the Festival of Trees, and has served as chair of the hospital’s board of directors. She also has chaired the Champions Volunteer Council and volunteered with the Children’s Miracle Network telethon and EdVenture Children’s Museum, St. John Neumann Catholic School, and Richland County School District One. She also is a youth Sunday school teacher and vacation Bible school teacher at Eastminster Presbyterian Church.

“I love what I do – and most of that comes from this college,” Parker said. “There are still many occasions when I sit back and wonder if I really can make a difference. I’m only one person. Can I have a positive impact? If any of you have ever volunteered and had the same hesitations, I believe you’ll want to quote one of the ultimate givers – Mother Teresa, who said ‘We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.’”

Matthew C. Miller ’98 of Falls Church, Va., was named the 2010 Outstanding Young Alumnus for early competence within his chosen field and exceptional promise of future achievement.

Since 2001, Miller has served as a foreign service officer at the State Department, where he has worked in Haiti, France, and Cameroon. As special assistant to the ambassador at the U.S. Embassy in Port Au Prince, Haiti, during the ouster of Haitian president Jean-Bertran Aristide, Miller and a colleague translated Aristide’s resignation letter from Creole to English for the media.

“Everything I’ve needed to know to be a diplomat, I learned here at PC,” he said. “... I can’t thank PC enough for what it’s given me.”

PC students sweep independent colleges’ scholarship awards

Two Presbyterian College students have been named this year’s recipients of the two scholarships awarded annually by the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities.

Amber Giles, a senior from Rock Hill, S.C., has been named the J. Lacy McLean Scholarship recipient and the SCICU Student of the Year.

Plyler Hamilton, a senior from Greenville, S.C., has been named the Sterling L. Smith Scholarship recipient.

Both students were recognized for their academic achievements, leadership skills, and commitment to public affairs.

Giles, a biology major and chemistry and mathematics minor, has served in leadership roles in Alpha Delta Pi sorority, Pre-Pharmacy Club, Student Union Board, Student Wellness Advisory Team, Honor Council, and others. Giles has also volunteered with



Amber Giles

Special Olympics, Relay for Life, Good Shepherd Free Clinic, and others.

“I am extremely honored that SCICU chose me as the J. Lacy McLean scholarship recipient and Student of the Year,” Giles said. “Presbyterian has allowed me to get involved on campus while focusing on my academic interests.”

Hamilton, a biology major and chemistry and political science minor, has served in leadership roles in Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, Student Union Board, Stirlings, Omicron Delta Kappa, and others. Hamilton has also volunteered with Special Olympics, Habitat for Humanity, Relay for Life, and as part of PC’s Service Day.

“I’m really excited to have won the scholarship,” Hamilton said. “Top-notch professors and staff here at PC make it possible for success to be realized by any student here.”



Plyler Hamilton

This year marks the second time in the past few years that two PC students have received SCICU’s two scholarship awards. In 2006, Noel Wall was named the McLean Scholar while Stephen Humphries was named the Sterling L. Smith Scholar. In 2004, Mike Wright was named the McLean Scholar while Aimee Sherman was named the Sterling L. Smith Scholar.

J. Lacy McLean joined SCICU in 1954 and served as the organization’s president for 34 years. He was committed to higher education, particularly private higher education in South Carolina and across the nation.

Sterling L. Smith joined SCICU in 1960 as the legislative liaison for the organization’s member colleges and universities. He was instrumental in crafting the development of the South Carolina Tuition Grant Program.



Sara Doelker and Lea Kramer

Two international students remembered as part of the family

Two young women from Germany – friends united at Presbyterian College to share the adventure of living in a foreign country, making new friends, and learning and teaching. While Sara Doelker and Lea Kramer accomplished those goals and more during their short time at PC, their adventure – and their promising lives – ended all too soon.

Their tragic deaths in an automobile accident in October naturally shook the campus to its core. Living as they were in a small town on a college campus that prides itself for being a close-knit community, Doelker and Kramer were well-known and loved by their schoolmates. Less than a week after their tragic deaths, students, faculty members, and staff filled Edmunds Hall for a memorial service that recalled their brief but bright impact on PC.

“It’s important to remember them – who they were and how they could make such a big impact on the community in such a short amount of time,” said Diane Pritchard, assistant director of international programs. “They were two very bright and fun and charming girls who really made the most of every moment that they had here. They were very engaged in their classes. They were involved in all kinds of extracurricular activities;

they were always walking around. They were very social. They made friends everywhere they went and they were really well liked by everyone. I haven’t met a single person who could say a bad thing about either one of them.

“Sara was kind of the sweeter, softer, gentler one who was just always smiling, always kind. Lea was a little more boisterous and funny – she was a very funny person and always making people laugh and always laughing herself.”

They were close, Pritchard said. They maintained a blog together that chronicled their adventures at PC and the U.S. which was bolstered by Doelker’s love of photography.

“Sara was always taking pictures,” Pritchard said. “We’re really lucky because those photos helped memorialize them so well.”

Doelker and Kramer were particularly close to their fellow residents in Carol International House, which maintains a mural of photographs of the pair.

“Students didn’t want to see their memories closed away in an album,” Pritchard said. “It helped them to have a more visible sign of their presence here because they did have such a big presence here. The shock of it

– the suddenness when a young person dies before their time, it’s just hard.”

At the same time, however, the loss brought the PC community together as tragedy often does.

“I think PC has done a fantastic job rallying around the students,” said Viet Ha, director of international programs. “... It’s a sign of a great community. It’s a great place to be – knowing that a strong community of support is here working together.”

Early on, soon after news of the accident was shared with campus, in fact, students turned their initial shock and grief into compassion – especially for the families in Germany who just learned that their beloved daughters would not be coming home alive.

“From the beginning, there was a clear sense of need to do something,” Ha said. “When we met with the international students at CIH Saturday morning, there was a moment of shock and sadness, but it quickly shifted into, ‘What can we do to support the family?’ ... That became clear – the need to reach out to them.

“It came from CIH students wanting to make an impact – to show that they cared for those two students and also for their families. It was contagious throughout the whole community. It was an outpouring of affection, a willingness to share with people they never met. It was a unique experience I’ve never encountered before.”

As part of the delegation from PC to Germany for the women’s funerals, Pritchard saw firsthand the appreciation their families had for the college community and their love for their daughters.

“The families were thinking beyond themselves and their own grief and sending out their thoughts and prayers to the other students who were involved in the accident and to the other members of the PC community who were suffering from the loss,” Pritchard said.

The community shared its cards and letters. Art classes created pieces that were hand-delivered to Doelker’s and Kramer’s families.

In the days since, there have been moments to reflect and remember and to heal.

“This is definitely the hardest thing in my professional life that I’ve ever had to do,” said Pritchard. “It’s extremely unfortunate that this happened. We’re just trying to do the best that we can in honor of the girls who passed away and for their families and for the rest of the students in the residence hall and their friends.”

Ha said that, personally, staying busy has helped. But he also understands the need for students to stay connected and take time to talk and process when necessary.

“The challenge for students is to grapple with what happened while also focusing on the tasks that are ahead of them,” he said. “There are a lot of folks who are going to sit and listen to them. They seem to be doing well. There is an awareness of the need for support but also an awareness of the need for individual space. Again, it shows our care for them in the healing process.”

PC begins new tradition

Two conversations. One new tradition. When Presbyterian College president Dr. John Griffith met earlier this fall with new dean of religious life Dr. Jeri Parris Perkins to discuss her Opening Convocation speech to launch the 2010-11 academic year, the conversation led to one of the anecdotes Perkins planned to share.

A story about Perkins’ grandmother and how she ordered her spending priorities – namely her gifts – with envelopes inspired Griffith, as did another conversation with college leaders, to develop a new tradition at PC in which incoming freshmen will be asked to submit envelopes of their own.

In each envelope submitted by students is \$1, a short statement on what each of them hopes to do with his or her life and what each of them would do if their \$1 was \$1 million. The collected envelopes were then placed in a time capsule and buried on the Alumni Green. During their senior year, the capsules and the envelopes will be opened and then the seniors will repeat the process – having their time capsules re-opened at each class’ five-year reunions.

Griffith said he hopes the idea will get students to think early not only about their own aspirations but also how they are connected to PC.

“These gifts, for many of our students, will be their first to PC,” he said. “But more importantly, it provides a way for them to share their dreams for themselves and

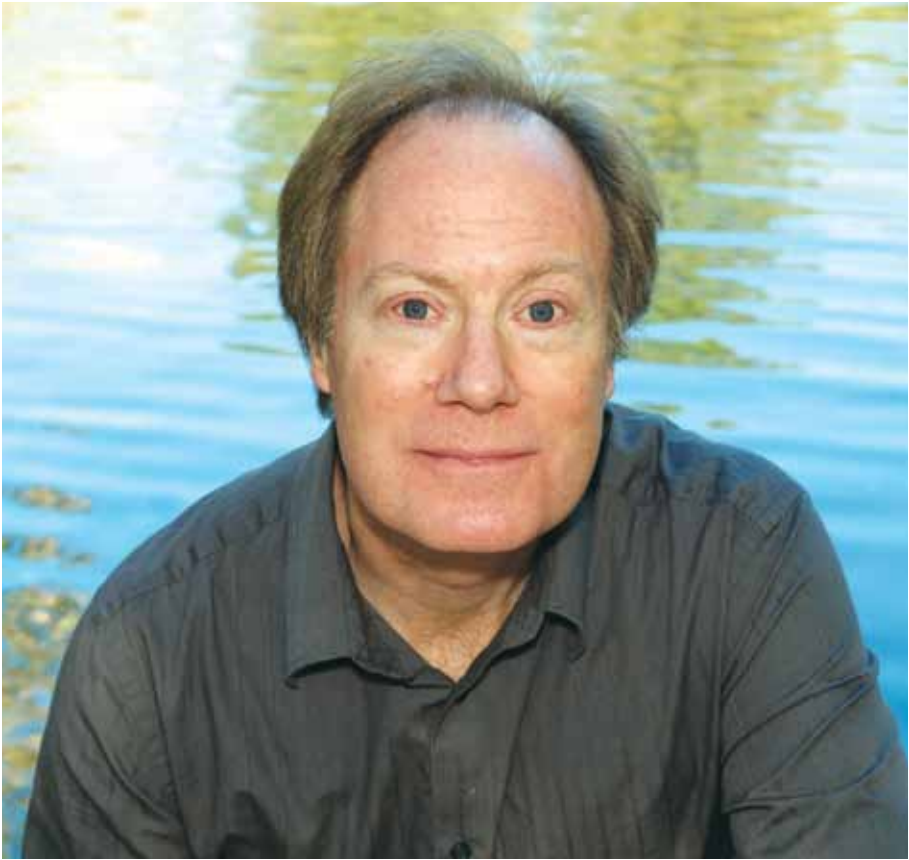
to re-examine them when they graduate and later after they’ve moved on to bigger and better things.”

Making it a shared experience – an event, even – is expected to remind students that their college experience is indeed a community experience.

“This is a family that cares deeply about them as individuals,” Griffith said. “Remembering what it was like for me when I was a freshman, I took it for granted that there were people around me who made it possible for me to be there and to succeed. We want this new tradition to somehow plant that seed and begin the discussion on what to do with your resources.”



“(The Gulf Coast) is a problem, and this is how biologists come to the aid of that particular problem. There’s still plenty of time. As students come in 2011, 2012, 2013, and so on, there’s still going to be years of research to be done just on the potential effects. So now is the perfect time to get involved in that type of marine biology.” - Dr. Jim Wetzel



Professor sees biologists’ purpose after the spill

When the BP oil spill struck the Gulf Coast last spring, it presented devastating problems. It also may, over time, give scientists a natural laboratory for seeking new solutions.

“Biology really is to solve problems, like any other field,” said Dr. Jim Wetzel, PC’s Pulaski L. Bealy Smith Professor of Biology. “If you’re talking about marine biology solving problems, you go where the problems exist. You go to the beautiful coral reefs to enjoy a snorkel, but if you want to solve problems with your tools as a biologist, you go where the problems exist. Right now, they exist in the Gulf.”

This past summer Wetzel visited the Gulf Coast, but it wasn’t just because of the oil spill. For the past twelve years, Wetzel has taught marine biology, ecology, and ichthyology (fish biology) courses and supervises lab work at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory at the University of Southern Mississippi. Biologists and students from nearly 200 colleges and universities across the country are part of a consortium who use the laboratory.

“The lab serves as the hub for the marine studies minor,” Wetzel said. “It’s a wonderful option for students to get our degree from a prestigious institution and, at the same time, have this feather in their cap of actually having spent summers at a marine lab. That makes them competitive for graduate programs in marine biology.”

Admittedly, however, “this year things were different because of the oil spill,” Wetzel said.

In addition to teaching at the lab this summer, Wetzel, an experienced diver, worked with Department of Natural Resources officials and fellow biologists to clean up, survey, and “do all they could do to help the overall contamination of the oil spill.”

“I was involved in the group that was looking at the deep-water pollution,” Wetzel said. “Anybody can see the oil from the surface and can see the oil running around the shore. A small group of us looked at some waters in Florida, mostly Mississippi, and then some in Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas. We were looking at the degree of pollution on the bottom that you wouldn’t see as planes would fly overhead.”

Wetzel and others also patrolled the beaches looking for tar balls and identifying birds that were polluted with oil. They notified the location of the birds



to the Department of Natural Resources, who would pick up the birds and clean them. In addition, Wetzel and others looked at aerial survey maps and interfaced them with their maps in the lab to pinpoint the oil’s location and where it was going.

While surveying the area, they noticed that the currents that come down from the Mississippi River were keeping the flow of oil more off the shores of Mississippi. They discovered that the oil more seriously polluted Louisiana and the Pensacola area of Florida.

“That’s where we again looked at the depths,” Wetzel said. “Depending on where you were, you’d see no pollution at all or you’d see horrific deposits of oil. The worst I saw was in Pensacola.”

Wetzel dived into the waters of Pensacola, a popular tourist area for diving and sport fishing. There, a lot of old ships are taken out of the Navy fleet, scrubbed so that they’re detoxified, stripped of all that is recoverable, detonated, and sunk to become artificial reefs. Ships, covered with sponge, serve as the basis for an eco-system, according to Wetzel.

“(The ships) bring diversity, where there was just sand,” Wetzel said. “And they really help that area tremendously. Those were all encrusted with oil. It was

almost like a brown Vaseline sticking to everything. We just know that whatever is under there is dead.”

Assuming that the oil gets cleaned off the wrecks, the eco-systems will need to start over again, according to Wetzel.

“I hate to be pessimistic about it,” he said, “but we’re looking at a recovery in that area . . . that will last longer than I’ll be around.”

Wetzel considers this past summer’s trip to the Gulf Coast a “life experience,” not a “good experience.” The good, if there’s any to speak of, rests in what the distinguished professor has told his students for years: that biology solves problems.

“I always tell my students that if they’re serious about going into marine biology, figure out a way to use it to solve a problem. Study muddy waters, don’t study crystal clear waters,” he said.

“(The Gulf Coast) is a problem, and this is how biologists come to the aid of that particular problem. There’s still plenty of time. As students come in 2011, 2012, 2013, and so on, there’s still going to be years of research to be done just on the potential effects. So now is the perfect time to get involved in that type of marine biology.”

In Memory of...

Robert I. Upshur '39 of West Columbia, S.C., died Aug. 1 at the age of 92.

Henry Bedinger Jr. '42 of Columbia, S.C., died July 21 at the age of 89.

Robert Neal Spurrier '49 of Charlotte, N.C., died Sept. 29 at the age of 87.

James Wade Kleckley Sr. died Oct. 19 at the age of 84.

Roy Skinner '52 of Nashville, Tenn., died Oct. 25 at the age of 80.

Thomas L. Jordan '53 of Marietta, Ga., died July 26 at the age of 76.

Col. (Ret) Charles Osteen Woodson '53 of Leavenworth, Kansas, died Oct. 1 at the age of 80.

Roy. E. Benjamin '58 of Bluffton, S.C., died Nov. 5 at the age of 74.

Harry John Wilkinson, Jr. '61 of Pendleton, S.C., died Aug. 11.

James Arthur Wagers Jr. '66 of Leesville, S.C., died July 22 at the age of 66.

James Robert Sullenberger Jr. '69 of Fairfield, Va. died July 7.

Lucy Graybill Morton '78 of Lancaster, S.C., died Sept. 12 at the age of 54.

Luanne Cranston '84 died July 5 at the age of 49.

Melissa Ann Thompson Coker '89 of Anderson, S.C., died July 19.

Class of 1955

Luther Welsh '55, the head coach at Thomson High School in Thomson, Ga., recently coached his last regular season home game in a 42-9 win. Coach Welsh is in his second stint serving as athletic director and head coach for THS and has 54 years in coaching and teaching. He has taught and coached at eight schools, including Thomson. He was the Star Teacher and Teacher of the Year in 1985. His coaching record includes three state championships, 19 state playoffs and an overall record of 330-178-6. He was the coach of both the South team of the Georgia All Stars and the Georgia-Florida All Stars. He was named Coach of the Year by *The Augusta Chronicle*, *Atlanta Journal Constitution* and the Atlanta Touchdown Club for High School.

Class of 1959



Retired pilot **Herb Entrekinn '59**, his wife Gail, and **Ed Messer '59** flew to Laurens County this fall to see old classmates and root for the Blue Hose during Homecoming '10.

Class of 1961

Judge Kenneth O. Nix '61, chief judge of the Superior Court of the Cobb Judicial Circuit, State of Georgia, retired Oct. 4 on his 71st birthday. Nix has served 27 years and nine months as a State Court and Superior Court Judge. Prior to his years on the bench, he served 10 years in the Georgia House of Representatives. Although he attended PC for only two years, he has been an active supporter of the college and particularly athletics. He likes playing in the alumni baseball game at Homecoming, catching at least one inning to the amazement of other players and spectators.

Class of 1970



Tom Stearns '70 has been named the 2010 recipient of the Harry J. Harwick Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is presented annually by the Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) and the American College of Medical Practice Executives (ACMPE), and is the highest recognition of an individual who has displayed a lifetime of achievement in, and made outstanding contributions to, healthcare administration, delivery, and education. He is a Fellow of the ACMPE and has a long association with the MGMA. He is currently the vice president of the medical practice services division at State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company.

Class of 1978

Janet Bailey '78 has been promoted to vice president

and chief actuary for BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina (BSBSSC). She is a certified CPA, an associate of the Society of Actuaries and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries since 1986. She joined BCBSSC in June 1981 as a student actuary and was promoted to manager of large group actuarial services in 1985. She has held the position of senior actuary of major group and government programs since 1993. In her new position, Janet will manage and direct the actuarial functions of BlueCross BlueShield of S.C., BlueChoice Health Plan, government programs, and any other at-risk health insurance-related business of the corporation. In addition, she will also assess and monitor the new business risks across the private business and subsidiary lines of business during this period of regulatory reform.

Class of 1981

R. Bentley Anderson '81, has accepted a position at Fordham University in the Bronx, New York, in the department of African Studies as associate professor. During the 2009-2010 academic year, he held the Loyola Chair in the Humanities at Fordham. Prior to accepting this new position, Bentley was associate professor of history at Saint Louis University since 2001.

Class of 1983



A few members of the Class of 1983 reunited in Lexington, Ky., for a get-together this year: (left to right) **Marion Hicklin '83**, **Steve Pynne '83**, **Zachary Pynne**, **Connie Kibler Pynne '83**

Class of 1989



Dr. Tommy Murph '89, a dentist in Conway, S.C., since 1993,

has written a book, *Extraction Guide for the Exodontist*. It is a 100-page book that explains how to remove teeth and handle complications that are encountered during extractions. Tommy has also invented an instrument, the Dr. Murph Crane Pick, used to remove wisdom teeth.

Matt Slappey '89 is the owner of the Decatur, Ga., office of Murphy Business and Financial Corporation, where he works with businesses of all types, ranging from \$100,000 to \$10,000,000 in gross sales. He earned his board certified intermediary designation through Murphy. He is a member of the IBBA and sat for his CBI exam in November at the most recent IBBA conference. Prior to becoming a business broker, he worked in management for a Fortune 100 healthcare company and holds an FAA license as an airline pilot, qualified in both airplanes and helicopters.

Class of 1991

Elizabeth Coppedge-Henley '91 completed her doctorate of ministry at Columbia Theological School in May. She and her husband, Jonathan, and their children, Owen (11) and Lora (5), moved to Charlotte, N.C., in June. She is the senior pastor of First United Methodist Church in Charlotte, where Jonathan is the pastor of congregation development.



PC's executive director of alumni, community, and Greek programs **Randy Randall '75** recently took a U.S. Airways flight to New York City and while waiting to take off, saw the captain get off the plane. Little did he know he was flying the Wild Blue (Hose) Yonder with **Graham Simpson**, a 1976 graduate of PC who has been with the airline for 30 years and has family from Randall's hometown in Washington, Ga.

Class of 1992

Nancy Norton Salome '92 and husband, Joe, are excited to announce the adoption of their second child, Sarah Grace. Sarah was adopted from Guangzhou Province in China last March. She came home to big brother, Kyle, who is 10 years old. Joe is an employee benefits specialist for Mercer. Nancy has quit teaching preschool to become a full-time stay-at-home mom.

Class of 1999

Jaime Spann Amsler '99 and **David Amsler '97** welcomed their second child, daughter Adair Suzanne Amsler. Adair was born on Dec. 29, 2009, and joins big sister, Mabry (3).

Class of 2000

Adam Cresswell '00 is the director of operations and inside sales at Foreground Security, which is owned by **David Amsler '97** and **Jaime Spann Amsler '99**. For the second year in a row, Foreground Security has been named one of the 500 fastest growing companies in the U.S. by *Inc. Magazine*. The company was ranked No. 18 overall and No. 3 in the security field.

Laura Forrester Gelfand '00 and her husband, Matt, announce the birth of their second son, Christopher James Gelfand. Christopher

was born on April 16 and joins big brother, Connor. The couple lives in Brentwood, Tenn.

Thomas Hobson '00 has been serving as the director of child life services at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital for the past two years. Le Bonheur is located in Memphis, Tenn., and recently opened a new hospital, where Thomas will also be the director of the Family Resource Center. The child life program is a clinical service that uses play and education to address the psychosocial needs of patients and families while in the hospital. Thomas has also begun serving as a consultant with Sidra Medical and Research Center, located in Doha, Qatar. He is working with the project as they work to complete a world-class academic hospital in 2012. His role with Sidra is to help them establish their child life program, which is the first child life program in the Middle East. His role is helping them to develop a community-based early intervention program and set up their child psychology program.

Class of 2001

Jeff Pafford '01 and wife, Kaki, welcomed their second daughter, Caroline Dunbar Pafford, on Oct. 23, 2009.

Class of 2002



Janice Preston '02 is engaged to Abe Rush, and they are currently serving in Afghanistan together. Janice joined the Army in 2006 and completed her doctor of physical therapy degree from the U.S. Army-Baylor University program in 2009. She then was stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky., where she met fellow Army captain, Abe Rush. Abe is an infantry officer for 4th Brigade of the 101st and Janice is their physical therapist. Abe proposed in July of this year and three weeks later they both left for FOB Sharana, Afghanistan. They are planning a wedding for fall of 2011 when both are safely home.

Class of 2003



Lindsey Smith Frye '03 and husband, **Wally Frye '03**, wel-

comed the birth of their daughter, Lyla Cate Frye, on March 24. Lindsey earned her doctorate from the University of South Carolina in 2008 and is a licensed psychologist. She is employed by the School District of Greenville County and also works with families in independent practice. Wally earned his law degree from the University of South Carolina in 2006 and currently practices worker's compensation defense with McAngus Goudelock & Courie, LLC. The family resides in Simpsonville, S.C.

Brian Prah '03 worked at Wells Fargo for more than seven years and recently went out on his own doing mortgages. Brian said he loves helping people buy or refinance their homes and would like to give back to PC by offering a fee discount to any alumni that goes through him for their next home purchase or refinance. He is located in the Columbia/Lexington area.

Class of 2004

Claire Virginia Anderson '04 and William Morgan McCranie were married Oct. 2 at First Presbyterian Church, Clinton, S.C. Claire earned her master's in journalism from Columbia University. She is an employee of CBS News/ "48 Hrs" in New York City. Will attended Augusta State University and is a 2007 graduate of Georgia College and State University, where he received a bachelor of business administration in marketing. He is employed by Spectrum Interactive Media, Inc., in New York City, where he is a senior account executive. **Lauren Emily Anderson '02**, sister of the bride, was maid of honor.

Class of 2006

Katherine Lee Benjamin '06 and Adam James McCann were married June 5 at Bush River Baptist Church in Newberry, S.C. The bride is a graduate of the Medical University of South Carolina, where she earned a master's

degree in cytology and biosciences. She is employed by Coastal Pathology as a cytotechnologist and PA. The groom is a graduate of the College of Charleston with a degree in computer science. He is employed by the Department of Defense as a computer scientist. The couple will reside in Port Royal.

Elizabeth Ann "Annie" Turner '06 and Justin Travis Butler were married Oct. 30 at Mauldin United Methodist Church. The bride earned a master's degree from Southern Wesleyan University in Central, S.C. The groom is a graduate of Clemson University with a degree in chemical engineering.



Class of 2007

Katrina Foppiano '07 and Paul Pierson were married April 3. The wedding party included bridesmaids **Blakely Caswell '07**, **Jeannie Godwin '07**, **Jacquelyn Gypin '07** and **Samantha Sepulveda '07**. The couple resides in Jacksonville, Fla.

Jacquelyn Gypin '07 was chosen from the studio audience to play a game on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show." The game ended in a tie and she walked away with American Idol tickets, an X-Box and Beatles Rock Band game.

Class of 2009

Andrew Bayless '09 was invited to join the United States Peace Corps. He was formally inducted at the end of July 2010. He is currently serving as a business educator in San Carlos, Nicaragua.

Class of 2010

Sarah Bellacicco '10 has joined the Grant Park Dwell house and is part of the Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program of the Presbyterian Church (USA). She has traveled both to Germany and Africa; trips that have had an impact on her faith journey. This year Sarah will serve at the Central Outreach and Advocacy Center working with those who are homeless and the working poor.

Micah Lauren Mallory '10 and **Matthew Allee McCall '10** were married Oct. 23 at Congaree Presbyterian Church in Cayce. The bride is employed by Resource Financial Services. The groom is employed by Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church. The couple will reside in West Columbia.

Stephanie Saffi '10 of Clinton and **Rob Lewis '10** of Aiken were married Aug. 7 at First Baptist Church of Clinton. The bride has a degree in music performance. The groom has a degree in computer

science and history. He plans to attend graduate school at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

Class of 2011

Jamie Poag '11 and **Graysen Pack '09** are to be married in June 2011. The bride-elect will graduate with honors from Presbyterian College in May with a bachelor of arts in Christian education and minors in English, music, and Christian youth work. The groom-elect is currently enrolled in the divinity school at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.



Matt Reese '07, **Matt Parker '07** and **Katie Parker '06** are serving together in Iraq at Al Asad Airbase.



PC graduates (left to right) **Rachael Bodiford '06**, **Susan Wentz Gibbs '87**, **Wesley Campbell '06**, and **Margaret Sams '06** earned their doctorates in veterinary medicine from the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine last May



Several PC alumnae graduated last spring from Princeton Theological Seminary. (Left to right) **Tina DeYoe '07** graduated with her master's of divinity; **Leigh Stuckey '06** graduated with her second degree from PTS, a master's of theology after receiving her master's of divinity in 2009; **Caroline Blakely Wood '05** graduated from her dual degree program with her master's of divinity and her master of arts degree in Christian education; **Miriam Tyler Todd Mauritzen '03** graduated with her master's of divinity.

PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

Homecoming 2010



PKA Brothers Remembered at Homecoming

The Pi Kappa Alpha Chapter at PC honored two of its deceased alumni at homecoming this year. The dedication ceremony was held at the chapter house with approximately 100 people in attendance. The memorial service was for brother **Jim Wagers '66** and brother **Don McNeill '66**. Both of these Pike alumni passed away last year. Family members from each family were in attendance and testimonials were delivered by alumni members of the chapter. **Jack Howard '68** spoke on behalf of Jim Wagers, and **George Lokey '65** spoke on behalf of Don McNeill. The Pikes have a tradition of placing permanent markers in the house each year for deceased brothers. The money for these memorials is raised through donations from alumni. Permanent works of art were hung at the house in memory of Wagers and McNeill.

The Pi Kappa Alpha Chapter at PC has also placed a brick on Alumni Green in memory of Brother **Branson C. Jones '50** who passed away in 2010. They are also in the process of getting a permanent memorial to hang at the fraternity house.

A picture of an antique fire truck was donated to the fraternity in memory of brother **Dan Lanford '74**. Thanks to brother **Robbie Strickland '78** for arranging to have the picture inscribed.

